



THE STAN-BLAST NEWSLETTER

July, 1996

Volume 2, Number 1

STAN-BLAST RECEIVES U.S. NAVY APPROVAL AGAIN

It is widely recognized in our industry that the most important approval an abrasive can receive is issued by the Department of the Navy, Naval Sea Systems Command. We are happy to report that in testing carried out late last year, Stan-Blast coal slag abrasives were found to meet all standards.

The Navy specification covering nonmetallic abrasive materials used in blast cleaning is known as MIL-A-22262B(SH). This is a document of about 25 pages, including amendments. While it is clearly a Navy document, it draws on and incorporates other regulations or specifications from the EPA, OSHA, DOT, the State of California Dept. of Health Services, the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the SSPC and the U.N. The California Air Resources Board is known to have the toughest air quality and hazardous waste

disposal regulations in the U.S., and abrasive manufacturers seeking Navy certification must have prior certification from the CARB.

All abrasive manufacturers who wish to do business with the Navy or with any department or agency of the Department of Defense, are required to submit their products for testing by the Navy or by a Navy-approved laboratory. Companies which are successful are then entitled to have their products included in the Navy's Qualified Products List, QPL-22262. Stan-Blast Abrasives has been on QPL-22262 since its inception.

(Continued on Page 4)

OSHA TO FOCUS ON LEAD & SILICA EXPOSURES IN 1996

Michael G. Conners, the newly appointed OSHA deputy administrator for enforcement, said recently that OSHA will begin increasing its health enforcement.

The agency has traditionally devoted much of its time and energy to safety hazards, but now intends to turn its attention to health-related standards. The top priority will be lead exposure in the construction industry followed later this year by crystalline silica or free silica exposure, especially where silica sand is used as a blast media.

Crystalline silica was listed by OSHA in December, 1995 as a leading candidate for more aggressive enforcement. Before the end of 1996 the blasting industry can expect to see focused inspections. This means that more inspectors will be visiting more blasting and painting sites, especially where workers are exposed to crystalline silica.

Mark A. Ensio, President, Stan-Blast Abrasives Co., Inc., announced last month that the Harvey plant will soon move from its present location on River Road, to a newly acquired property at 3860 Peters Road on the Harvey Canal.

Stan-Blast has already begun construction at this site and will be ready to start full production there by the end of the year.

The new site is much larger than the old one and will enable Stan-Blast to increase its warehousing capability and to store more spent abrasives for later shipment to cement plants for ultimate disposal.

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(L to R) Stan-Blast General Sales Manager, Paul Robinson and Mike Wilson of Rider and Wilson.



(L to R) Donnie Old, Aristech Chemical and President of the Houston Coating Society with Much Reed of Boca of Louisiana.

Navy Approval (Continued from Page 1)

For the latest qualification the Navy paid particular attention to three sets of standards: 1) Crystalline Silica, 2) Conductivity and 3) Hazardous Waste. Finally, the Navy also required that a stringent toxicological evaluation be carried out by the Naval Environmental Health Center. The specification for crystalline silica reads as follows:

The manufacturer shall certify that when evaluated in accordance with 4.5.9 the crystalline silica content shall not exceed 0.1 percent by weight.

Crystalline silica, or free silica, is defined as silicon dioxide. During sandblasting and other activities, free silica can be released and spread throughout a wide area. Breathing the dust particles can cause silicosis. There is no cure for silicosis. Because of the dangers of blasting with abrasives containing large amounts of free silica, many countries have banned such abrasives. The product containing the most free silica is silica sand. In spite of a strong NIOSH recommendation, silica sand has not been banned in the United States. Blasters continue to die from its effects and the lawsuits continue. It is out of concern for the health of those doing the blasting as well as those around them that the Navy has given special emphasis to its crystalline silica specification.

The specification for conductivity reads as follows:

The conductivity shall be less than 290 microsiemens per square centimeter.

This specification is important for the control of chlorides in the abrasive. Chlorides or salts on a steel surface can accelerate corrosion and contribute to coating failure.

The specification for hazardous waste reads as follows:

Soluble and total metal content shall be determined on the abrasive blasting material in accordance with the California Administrative Code, Title 22, Chapter 30, Minimum Standards for Management of Hazardous and Extremely Hazardous Waste, Section 66099, Persistent and Bioaccumulative Toxic Substance.

The California standards are particularly strict with respect to heavy metals such as lead. Stan-Blast products were found to be well below regulatory limits for every element tested.

Finally, a Toxicity Assessment was conducted by the Navy to ascertain the potentially harmful health effects of using the abrasive. The Naval Environmental Health Center concluded that Stan-Blast Abrasives, "could be safely used as an abrasive blasting material." The report added that, "all the precautions noted by the manufacturer in the MSDS and in this letter must be observed and diligently applied." These precautions are those which pertain to any abrasive blasting operation, such as wearing NIOSH and MSHA-approved protective and respiratory devices. Stan-Blast Abrasives is proud to receive Navy approval once again and to be included in the new 1996 QPL. This is confirmation that Stan-Blast coal slag abrasives are among the safest and most effective abrasives in use today.

STAN-BLAST HOSTS 4TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT AT SOUTH SHORE HARBOUR CLUB LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS, MAY 24, 1996



(l. to R) Tom Patterson, Dispatcher, Stan-Blast, Galveston; Doug Strickland, Aggregate Haulers.



(l. to R) Mike Maeller, Assistant Plant Manager, Stan-Blast, Galveston; Lloyd Fritts, T-Tex Supply; Dave Crowston, Sline Industrial Painters; Trevor Mills, McDermott.



(l. to R) David Massie and Tom Westerman, Corpus Christi Equipment.



(l. to R) Ernie and Carol Watson, Southern Sandblasting.



(l. to R) Lonnie Fournier and Teddy Font, Borden Chemicals.

Photos by Penny Barrera

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Editor: Paul Robinson

Managing Editor: Penny Barrera



Published by Stan-Blast Abrasives Co., Inc., twice yearly and distributed free of charge.

We welcome your questions and comments. Please phone us at 713.334.3400 or fax us at 713.334.3293.

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SALE OF CONTAINMENT TARPS: 30% OFF

For a limited time only, Stan-Blast Abrasives Co., Inc., is able to offer its customers a discontinued line of containment tarps at extraordinary prices. All tarps are brand-new and are available in limited quantities at sale prices of 30% off.

All prices are F.O.B. our plant in Harvey, L.A.

ITEM		SIZE	REG. PRICE	SALE PRICE
Enviro Tarp	95%	30'X30'	\$0.30/sq.ft.	\$0.21/sq.ft.
Enviro Tarp	95%	30'X50'	\$0.30/sq.ft.	\$0.21/sq.ft.
Enviro Tarp	95%	30'X75'	\$0.30/sq.ft.	\$0.21/sq.ft.
Enviro Tarp	85%	30'X50'	\$0.27/sq.ft.	\$0.19/sq.ft.
Enviro Tarp	85%	30'X75'	\$0.27/sq.ft.	\$0.19/sq.ft.

Don't miss this one-time opportunity to pick up quality all-purpose tarps for next to nothing!

To get more information or to place an order in Louisiana call Anna Chiasson at 504-825-3238 and in Texas call Ernestine McDaniel at 713-315-8775.

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